

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED
1998

18 July 1974

Alexandria, Virginia 22307

This letter is in response to your request for updating and clarification of the JEC article "Housing in the Soviet Union -- Big Plans, Little Action."

By assuming either that the annual percentage increase or the absolute growth in the housing stock matches the average of the 1967-72 period, the Soviets should not have sufficient urban housing to provide each family with its own unit before the end of 1977. Remember, as Mr. Smith's article points out, that even if they attain this goal, the average useful space per unit will still be much smaller than in Western Europe.

Average housing space per capita in 1972 for selected areas is:

	(square meters of useful space)
USSR	11.2
Rural Areas	10.9
Urban	11.4
Moscow	14.2
Leningrad	12.4
Baku	10.3
Tashkent	8.5
Lvov	11.7

The 1972 Soviet distribution of housing construction by category of owner is:

	(million of square meters of useful space)
Total	106.7
State	72.9
Coop	6.5
Private	27.3

Note that the state and coop figures have been slightly changed. They are no longer estimates.

If you require any additional information on this topic, please contact me on

Respectfully yours,